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APPLICATION NUMBER: *60/496,188*
FILING DATE: *August 18, 2003*
RELATED PCT APPLICATION NUMBER: *PCT/US04/26965*

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Express Mail Label No. EU082849175US

22141 U.S. PTO
60/490100
08/18/03

INVENTOR(S)

Given Name (first and middle [if any])	Family Name or Surname	Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)
L. Curtis Carla R.	Hannah Lyerly Linebarger	Gainesville, Florida Gainesville, Florida

☐ *Additional inventors are being named on the ___ separately numbered sheets attached hereto.*

TITLE OF THE INVENTION (500 characters max)

Heat Stable Variant of Adenosine Diphosphate Glucose Pyrophosphorylase

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ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS *(check all that apply)*

☒ Specification *Number of Pages* 28

☒ Drawing(s) *Number of Sheets* 2

☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

☐ CD(s), Number

☒ Other (specify) Sequence Listing consisting of 15 pages

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FILING FEE AMOUNT ($) $80.00

The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.

☐ No.

☒ Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: National Science Foundation Grant No. 9982626

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNATURE _____

TYPED or PRINTED NAME Doran R. Pace

TELEPHONE (352) 375-8100

Date August 18, 2003

REGISTRATION NO. *(if appropriate)* 38,261

Docket Number: UF-371P

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Provisional Application
Docket No. UF-371P

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	:	L. Curtis Hannah, Carla R. Lyerly Linebarger
Docket No.	:	UF-371P
For	:	Heat Stable Variant of Adenosine Diphosphate Glucose Pyrophosphorylase

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DESCRIPTION

HEAT STABLE VARIANT OF ADENOSINE DIPHOSPHATE GLUCOSE PYROPHOSPHORYLASE

The subject invention was made with government support under a research project supported by the National Science Foundation Grant No. 9982626. The government has certain rights in this invention.

Background of the Invention

The sessile nature of plant life generates a constant exposure to environmental factors that exert positive and negative effects on its growth and development. One of the major impediments facing modern agriculture is adverse environmental conditions. One important factor which causes significant crop loss is heat stress. Temperature stress greatly reduces grain yield in many cereal crops such as maize, wheat, and barley. Yield decreases due to heat stress range from 7 to 35% in the cereals of world-wide importance.

A number of studies have identified likely physiological consequences of heat stress. Early work by Hunter *et al.* (1977) using growth chamber conditions showed that temperature decreased the duration of grain filling in maize. Similar results in which the duration of grain filling was adversely altered by increased temperatures were identified by Tollenaar and Bruulsema (1988). Badu-Apraku *et al.* (1983) measured a marked reduction in the yield of maize plants grown under the day/night temperature regime of 35/15 °C compared to growth in a 25/15 °C temperature regime. Reduced yields due to increased temperatures is also supported by historical as well as climatological studies (Thompson 1986; Thompson 1975; Chang 1981; Conroy *et al.*, 1994). That the physiological processes of the developing seed are adversely affected by heat stress is evident from studies using an *in vitro* kernel culture system (Jones *et al.*, 1981; Jones *et al.*, 1984; Cheikh *et al.*, 1995). Maize kernels cultured at the above-optimum temperature of 35 °C exhibited a dramatic reduction in weight.

Work with wheat identified the loss of soluble starch synthase (SSS) activity as a hallmark of the wheat endosperm's response to heat stress (Hawker *et al.*, 1993; Denyer *et al.*,

1994; Jenner 1994). Additional studies with SSS of wheat endosperm show that it is heat labile (Rijven 1986; Keeling *et al.*, 1993; Jenner *et al.*, 1995).

ADP glucose pyrophosphorylase (AGP) is another important starch biosynthesis enzyme in plants. AGP catalyzes the conversion of ATP and α-glucose-1-phosphate to ADP-glucose and pyrophosphate. ADP-glucose is used as a glycosyl donor in starch biosynthesis by plants and in glycogen biosynthesis by bacteria. The importance of ADP-glucose pyrophosphorylase as a key enzyme in the regulation of starch biosynthesis was noted in the study of starch deficient mutants of maize (*Zea mays*) endosperm (Tsai *et al.*, 1966; Dickinson *et al.*, 1969). Biochemical and genetic evidence has identified AGP as a key enzyme in starch biosynthesis in higher plants and glycogen biosynthesis in *E. coli* (Preiss *et al.*, 1994; Preiss *et al.*, 1996). AGP catalyzes what is viewed as the initial step in the starch biosynthetic pathway with the product of the reaction being the activated glucosyl donor, ADPglucose. This is utilized by starch synthase for extension of the polysaccharide polymer (reviewed in Hannah 1996).

Initial studies with potato AGP showed that expression in *E. coli* yielded an enzyme with allosteric and kinetic properties very similar to the native tuber enzyme (Iglesias *et al.*, 1993; Ballicora *et al.*, 1995). Greene *et al.* (1996a, 1996b) showed the usefulness of the bacterial expression system in their structure-function studies with the potato AGP. Multiple mutations important in mapping allosteric and substrate binding sites have been identified (Okita *et al.*, 1996).

AGP enzymes have been isolated from both bacteria and plants. Bacterial AGP consists of a homotetramer, whereas plant AGP from photosynthetic and non-photosynthetic tissues is a heterotetramer composed of two different subunits. The plant enzyme is encoded by two different genes, with one subunit being larger than the other. This feature has been noted in a number of plants. The AGP subunits in spinach leaf have molecular weights of 54 kDa and 51 kDa, as estimated by SDS-PAGE. Both subunits are immunoreactive with antibody raised against purified AGP from spinach leaves (Copeland *et al.*, 1981; Morell *et al.*, 1988). Immunological analysis using antiserum prepared against the small and large subunits of spinach leaf showed that potato tuber AGP is also encoded by two genes (Okita *et al.*, 1990, *supra*). The cDNA clones of the two subunits of potato tuber (50 and 51 kDa) have also been isolated and

sequenced (Muller-Rober *et al.*, 1990; Nakata *et al.*, 1991). The large subunit of potato tuber AGP is heat stable (Nakata *et al.*, 1991, *supra*).

As Hannah and Nelson (1975, 1976) postulated, both *Shrunken-2* (*Sh2*) (Bhave *et al.*, 1990) and *Brittle-2* (*Bt2*) (Bae *et al.*, 1990) are structural genes of maize endosperm ADP-glucose pyrophosphorylase. *Sh2* and *Bt2* encode the large subunit and small subunit of the enzyme, respectively. Based on cDNA sequencing, *Sh2* and *Bt2* proteins have predicted molecular weight of 57,179 Da (Shaw *et al.*, 1992) and 52,224 Da, respectively. The endosperm is the site of most starch deposition during kernel development in maize. *Sh2* and *Bt2* maize endosperm mutants have greatly reduced starch levels corresponding to deficient levels of AGP activity. Mutations of either gene have been shown to reduce AGP activity by about 95% (Tsai and Nelson, 1966, *supra*; Dickinson and Preiss, 1969, *supra*). Furthermore, it has been observed that enzymatic activities increase with the dosage of functional wild type *Sh2* and *Bt2* alleles, whereas mutant enzymes have altered kinetic properties. AGP is the rate limiting step in starch biosynthesis in plants. Stark *et al.* (1992) placed a mutant form of *E. coli* AGP in potato tuber and obtained a 35% increase in starch content.

The cloning and characterization of the genes encoding the AGP enzyme subunits have been reported for various plants. These include *Sh2* cDNA (Bhave *et al.*, 1990, *supra*), *Sh2* genomic DNA (Shaw *et al.*, 1992, *supra*), and *Bt2* cDNA (Bae *et al.*, 1990, *supra*) from maize; small subunit cDNA (Anderson *et al.*, 1989) and genomic DNA (Anderson *et al.*, 1991) from rice; and small and large subunit cDNAs from spinach leaf (Morell *et al.*, 1988, *supra*) and potato tuber (Muller-Rober *et al.*, 1990, *supra*; Nakata *et al.*, 1991, *supra*). In addition, cDNA clones have been isolated from wheat endosperm and leaf tissue (Olive *et al.*, 1989) and *Arabidopsis thaliana* leaf (Lin *et al.*, 1988). AGP sequences from barley have also been described in Ainsworth *et al.* (1995).

AGP has been found to function as an allosteric enzyme in all tissues and organisms investigated to date. The allosteric properties of AGP were first shown to be important in *E. coli*. A glycogen-overproducing *E. coli* mutant was isolated and the mutation mapped to the structural gene for AGP, designated as *glg*C. The mutant *E. coli*, known as *glg*C-16, was shown to be more sensitive to the activator, fructose 1,6 bisphosphate, and less sensitive to the inhibitor, cAMP (Preiss 1984). Although plant AGP's are also allosteric, they respond to different effector

molecules than bacterial AGP's. In plants, 3-phosphoglyceric acid (3-PGA) functions as an activator while phosphate (PO_4) serves as an inhibitor (Dickinson and Preiss, 1969, *supra*).

Using an *in vivo* mutagenesis system created by the *Ac*-mediated excision of a *Ds* transposable element fortuitously located close to a known activator binding site, Giroux *et al.* (1996) were able to generate site-specific mutants in a functionally important region of maize endosperm AGP. One mutant, *Rev6,* contained a tyrosine-serine insert in the large subunit of AGP and conditioned a 11-18% increase in seed weight. Published international patent applications WO 99/58698 and WO 98/22601 and issued U.S. Patent No. 6,069,300 disclose mutations in the large subunit of maize AGP enzyme that, when expressed, confer increased heat stability to the enzyme in comparison to that observed for wild type AGP enzyme. In addition, published international application WO 01/64928 teaches that various characteristics, such as seed number, plant biomass, Harvest Index *etc.*, can be increased in plants transformed with a polynucleotide encoding a large subunit of maize AGP containing the *Rev6* mutation.

Ou-Lee and Setter (1985) examined the effects of temperature on the apical or tip regions of maize ears. With elevated temperatures, AGP activity was lower in apical kernels when compared to basal kernels during the time of intense starch deposition. In contrast, in kernels developed at normal temperatures, AGP activity was similar in apical and basal kernels during this period. However, starch synthase activity during this period was not differentially affected in apical and basal kernels. Further, heat-treated apical kernels exhibited an increase in starch synthase activity over control. This was not observed with AGP activity. Singletary *et al.* (1993, 1994) using an *in vitro* culture system quantified the effect of various temperatures during the grain fill period. Seed weight decreased steadily as temperature increased from 22-36 °C. A role for AGP in yield loss is also supported by work from Duke and Doehlert (1996). These researchers showed that transcript levels decreased to a varying degree, but only one enzyme, AGP, showed a marked decrease in activity with the lower transcript levels. They postulated that AGP may have a faster turnover rate than the other enzymes, and hence is more sensitive to changes in transcript levels. More recent work by Wilhelm *et al.* (1999) also makes a strong argument for AGP's role in yield loss during heat stress. The Wilhelm *et al.* authors studied seven inbreds over three replications, and through Q_{10} analysis, showed that AGP was the only enzyme that exhibited lower activity than the control.

Work by Keeling *et al.* (1993, *supra*) quantified SSS activity in maize and wheat using Q_{10} analysis, and showed that SSS is an important control point in the flux of carbon into starch. *In vitro* biochemical studies with AGP and SSS clearly show that both enzymes of maize are heat labile. Maize endosperm AGP loses 96% of its activity when heated at 57 °C for five minutes (Hannah *et al.*, 1980). This is in contrast to potato AGP which is fully stable at 70 °C (Sowokinos *et al.*, 1982; Okita *et al.*, 1990). Although the small subunits of AGP are highly conserved among a variety of plant species (Hannah *et al.*, 2001), the N-termini of potato tuber and maize endosperm small subunits exhibit sequence differences. Heat inactivation studies with SSS showed that it is also labile at higher temperatures, and kinetic studies determined that the *Km* value for amylopectin rose exponentially when temperature increased from 25-45 °C (Jenner *et al.*, 1995, *supra*).

Brief Summary of the Invention

The subject invention concerns polynucleotides encoding a small subunit of a plant AGP enzyme that has one or more mutations in the amino acid sequence of the subunit protein, wherein the mutation confers increased heat stability to the expressed AGP enzyme. As provided herein, amino acid changes in the N-terminus of the small subunit of heat labile plant AGP results in AGP enzymes that are significantly more heat stable in that the mutant AGP retains significant levels of enzymatic activity following exposure to heat treatment compared to wild type AGP. In one embodiment, the polynucleotide encodes a mutant small subunit of maize AGP. The subject invention also concerns mutant AGP small subunit polypeptides encoded by polynucleotides of the present invention.

The subject invention also concerns methods for providing a plant with increased resistance to heat conditions. Plants with heat labile AGP can be transformed with a polynucleotide of the present invention. The subject invention also concerns these transformed plant cells, plant tissue, and plants and transgenic progeny thereof.

Brief Description of the Figures

Figure 1 shows the alignment of the N-termini of the potato tuber (Pss) and maize endosperm (Mss) small subunits. The amino acid number is given in parentheses to the right of the subunit name. The amino acids in bold are those under evaluation in this study.

Figure 2 shows the percent heat stability with various mutations in the maize endosperm AGP small subunit. The results are the average of at least two independent experiments. Each individual experiment contained triplicates of each sample. The percent heat stability is measured by comparing the amount of activity of each sample remaining after heat treatment with the amount of activity obtained before heating. See Table 2 and Materials and Methods for assay conditions.

Brief Description of the Sequences

SEQ ID NO. 1 is a polynucleotide sequence encoding a wild type maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide.

SEQ ID NO. 2 is a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO. 1.

SEQ ID NO. 3 is a polynucleotide sequence encoding a mutant maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide of the present invention.

SEQ ID NO. 4 is a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO. 3 of the present invention.

SEQ ID NO. 5 is a polynucleotide sequence encoding a mutant maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide of the present invention.

SEQ ID NO. 6 is a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO. 5 of the present invention.

SEQ ID NO. 7 is a polynucleotide sequence encoding a mutant maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide of the present invention.

SEQ ID NO. 8 is a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO. 7 of the present invention.

SEQ ID NO. 9 is a polynucleotide sequence encoding a mutant maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide of the present invention.

SEQ ID NO. 10 is a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO. 9 of the present invention.

Detailed Disclosure of the Invention

The subject invention concerns polynucleotides encoding a small subunit of a plant AGP enzyme having one or more mutations in the amino acid sequence wherein the mutation confers increased heat stability to the expressed AGP enzyme. Mutations in the N-terminus of the small subunit of heat labile plant AGP results in AGP enzymes that are significantly more heat stable compared to wild type AGP in that the mutant AGP retains significant levels of enzymatic activity following exposure to heat treatment. In one embodiment, the polynucleotide encodes a mutant small subunit of maize AGP.

In an exemplified embodiment, a polynucleotide of the present invention encodes a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide comprising an amino acid mutation wherein the tyrosine at position 36 of the wildtype sequence is changed to a cysteine. In one embodiment, the polynucleotide encodes a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide having an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 4, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. In a specific embodiment, the polynucleotide encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 4 comprises the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 3, or a functional fragment or variant thereof.

In a further exemplified embodiment, a polynucleotide of the invention encodes a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide comprising an amino acid mutation wherein the tyrosine at amino acid position 36 is changed to a cysteine and, in addition, a glutamine residue is inserted between the serine at amino acid position 34 and the threonine at amino acid position 35 of the wild type sequence. In one embodiment, the polynucleotide encodes a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide having an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 8, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. In a specific embodiment, the polynucleotide encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 8 comprises the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 7, or a functional fragment or variant thereof.

In a still further exemplified embodiment, a polynucleotide of the invention encodes a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide comprising an amino acid mutation wherein

the tyrosine at position 36 of the wild type sequence is changed to a cysteine and, in addition, a glutamic acid residue is inserted between the serine at amino acid position 34 and the threonine at amino acid position 35 of the wild type sequence. In one embodiment, the polynucleotide encodes a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide having an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 10, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. In a specific embodiment, the polynucleotide encoding the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 10 comprises a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 9, or a functional fragment or variant thereof.

Because of the homology of AGP polypeptides between various species of plants (Smith-White *et.al.*, 1992), the ordinarily skilled artisan can readily determine the position for mutations in an AGP small subunit from plants other than maize that correspond to the position of mutations in maize AGP as disclosed herein, and can prepare polynucleotides encoding mutations in the small subunits of AGP of other plants that correspond to the mutations of the present invention exemplified in maize endosperm AGP small subunit sequences. Thus, the present invention encompasses polynucleotides that encode mutant small subunit of AGP of plants other than maize, including, but not limited to, wheat, barley, oats, and rice, that confers increased heat stability when expressed in the plant.

The subject invention also concerns polynucleotide expression constructs comprising a polynucleotide sequence of the present invention. In one embodiment, an expression construct of the invention comprises a polynucleotide sequence encoding a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 8, SEQ ID NO. 10, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. In a specific embodiment, the polynucleotide sequence comprises a polynucleotide sequence selected from SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO. 7, SEQ ID NO. 9, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. Expression constructs of the invention generally include regulatory elements that are functional in the intended host cell in which the expression construct is to be expressed in. Thus, a person of ordinary skill in the art can select regulatory elements for use in bacterial host cells, yeast host cells, plant host cells, insect host cells, mammalian host cells, and human host cells. Regulatory elements include promoters, transcription termination sequences, translation termination sequences, enhancers, and polyadenylation elements. As used herein, the term "expression construct" refers to a combination of nucleic acid sequences that provides for transcription of an

operably linked nucleic acid sequence. As used herein, the term "operably linked" refers to a juxtaposition of the components described wherein the components are in a relationship that permits them to function in their intended manner. In general, operably linked components are in contiguous relation.

An expression construct of the invention can comprise a promoter sequence operably linked to a polynucleotide sequence encoding a mutant AGP small subunit of the invention. Promoters can be incorporated into a polynucleotide using standard techniques known in the art. Multiple copies of promoters or multiple promoters can be used in an expression construct of the invention. In a preferred embodiment, a promoter can be positioned about the same distance from the transcription start site as it is from the transcription start site in its natural genetic environment. Some variation in this distance is permitted without substantial decrease in promoter activity. A transcription start site is typically included in the expression construct.

If the expression construct is to be provided in or introduced into a plant cell, then plant viral promoters, such as, for example, a cauliflower mosaic virus (CaMV) 35S (including the enhanced CaMV 35S promoter (see, for example U.S. Patent No. 5,106,739)) or a CaMV 19S promoter can be used. Other promoters that can be used for expression constructs in plants include, for example, prolifera promoter, Ap3 promoter, heat shock promoters, T-DNA 1'- or 2'-promoter of *A. tumafaciens*, polygalacturonase promoter, chalcone synthase A (CHS-A) promoter from petunia, tobacco PR-1a promoter, ubiquitin promoter, actin promoter, alcA gene promoter, pin2 promoter (Xu *et al.*, 1993), maize WipI promoter, maize trpA gene promoter (U.S. Patent No. 5,625,136), maize CDPK gene promoter, and RUBISCO SSU promoter (U.S. Patent No. 5,034,322) can also be used. Seed-specific promoters such as the promoter from a β-phaseolin gene (of kidney bean) or a glycinin gene (of soybean), and others, can also be used. Constitutive promoters (such as the CaMV, ubiquitin, actin, or NOS promoter), tissue-specific promoters (such as the E8 promoter from tomato), developmentally-regulated promoters, and inducible promoters (such as those promoters than can be induced by heat, light, hormones, or chemicals) are also contemplated for use with polynucleotide expression constructs of the invention.

For expression in animal cells, an expression construct of the invention can comprise suitable promoters that can drive transcription of the polynucleotide sequence. If the cells are

mammalian cells, then promoters such as, for example, actin promoter, metallothionein promoter, NF-kappaB promoter, EGR promoter, SRE promoter, IL-2 promoter, NFAT promoter, osteocalcin promoter, SV40 early promoter and SV40 late promoter, Lck promoter, BMP5 promoter, TRP-1 promoter, murine mammary tumor virus long terminal repeat promoter, STAT promoter, or an immunoglobulin promoter can be used in the expression construct. The baculovirus polyhedrin promoter can be used with an expression construct of the invention for expression in insect cells.

For expression in prokaryotic systems, an expression construct of the invention can comprise promoters such as, for example, alkaline phosphatase promoter, tryptophan (trp) promoter, lambda P_L promoter, β-lactamase promoter, lactose promoter, phoA promoter, T3 promoter, T7 promoter, or tac promoter (de Boer *et al.*, 1983).

Promoters suitable for use with an expression construct of the invention in yeast cells include, but are not limited to, 3-phosphoglycerate kinase promoter, glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase promoter, metallothionein promoter, alcohol dehydrogenase-2 promoter, and hexokinase promoter.

Expression constructs of the invention may optionally contain a transcription termination sequence, a translation termination sequence, a sequence encoding a signal peptide, and/or enhancer elements. Transcription termination regions can typically be obtained from the 3' untranslated region of a eukaryotic or viral gene sequence. Transcription termination sequences can be positioned downstream of a coding sequence to provide for efficient termination. A signal peptide sequence is a short amino acid sequence typically present at the amino terminus of a protein that is responsible for the relocation of an operably linked mature polypeptide to a wide range of post-translational cellular destinations, ranging from a specific organelle compartment to sites of protein action and the extracellular environment. Targeting gene products to an intended cellular and/or extracellular destination through the use of an operably linked signal peptide sequence is contemplated for use with the polypeptides of the invention. Classical enhancers are cis-acting elements that increase gene transcription and can also be included in the expression construct. Classical enhancer elements are known in the art, and include, but are not limited to, the CaMV 35S enhancer element, cytomegalovirus (CMV) early promoter enhancer element, and the SV40 enhancer element. Intron-mediated enhancer elements that enhance gene

expression are also known in the art. These elements must be present within the transcribed region and are orientation dependent. Examples include the maize shrunken-1 enhancer element (Clancy and Hannah, 2002).

DNA sequences which direct polyadenylation of mRNA transcribed from the expression construct can also be included in the expression construct, and include, but are not limited to, an octopine synthase or nopaline synthase signal. The expression constructs of the invention can also include a polynucleotide sequence that directs transposition of other genes, *i.e.*, a transposon.

Expression constructs can also include one or more dominant selectable marker genes, including, for example, genes encoding antibiotic resistance and/or herbicide-resistance for selecting transformed cells. Antibiotic-resistance genes can provide for resistance to one or more of the following antibiotics: hygromycin, kanamycin, bleomycin, G418, streptomycin, paromomycin, neomycin, and spectinomycin. Kanamycin resistance can be provided by neomycin phosphotransferase (NPT II). Herbicide-resistance genes can provide for resistance to phosphinothricin acetyltransferase or glyphosate. Other markers used for cell transformation screening include genes encoding β-glucuronidase (GUS), β-galactosidase, luciferase, nopaline synthase, chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (CAT), green fluorescence protein (GFP), or enhanced GFP (Yang *et al.*, 1996).

The subject invention also concerns polynucleotide vectors comprising a polynucleotide sequence of the invention that encodes a mutant plant AGP small subunit. Unique restriction enzyme sites can be included at the 5' and 3' ends of an expression construct or polynucleotide of the invention to allow for insertion into a polynucleotide vector. As used herein, the term "vector" refers to any genetic element, including for example, plasmids, cosmids, chromosomes, phage, virus, and the like, which is capable of replication when associated with proper control elements and which can transfer polynucleotide sequences between cells. Vectors contain a nucleotide sequence that permits the vector to replicate in a selected host cell. A number of vectors are available for expression and/or cloning, and include, but are not limited to, pBR322, pUC series, M13 series, and pBLUESCRIPT vectors (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA).

Polynucleotides of the present invention can be composed of either RNA or DNA. Preferably, the polynucleotides are composed of DNA. The subject invention also encompasses

those polynucleotides that are complementary in sequence to the polynucleotides disclosed herein.

Because of the degeneracy of the genetic code, a variety of different polynucleotide sequences can encode mutant AGP small subunit polypeptides of the present invention. In addition, it is well within the skill of a person trained in the art to create alternative polynucleotide sequences encoding the same, or essentially the same, small subunit AGP proteins of the subject invention. These variant or alternative polynucleotide sequences are within the scope of the subject invention. As used herein, references to "essentially the same" sequence refers to sequences which encode amino acid substitutions, deletions, additions, or insertions which do not materially alter the functional activity of the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotides of the present invention. Allelic variants of the nucleotide sequences encoding a small subunit of AGP of the invention are also encompassed within the scope of the invention.

The subject invention also concerns mutant AGP small subunit polypeptides wherein the mutation(s) confers increased heat stability to the expressed AGP enzyme relative to wild type enzyme. The mutant polypeptides can be encoded by polynucleotides of the invention. In an exemplified embodiment, a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide of the present invention comprises an amino acid mutation wherein the tyrosine at position 36 of the wild type sequence is changed to a cysteine. In a specific embodiment, the maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 4, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. In yet another exemplified embodiment, a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide of the present invention comprises an amino acid mutation wherein a tyrosine at amino acid position 36 is changed to a cysteine and, in addition, a glutamine residue is inserted between the serine at amino acid position 34 and the threonine at amino acid position 35 of the wild type sequence. In a specific embodiment, the maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 8, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. In a further exemplified embodiment, a maize endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide of the present invention comprises an amino acid mutation wherein the tyrosine at position 36 of the wild type sequence is changed to a cysteine and, in addition, a glutamic acid residue is inserted between the serine at amino acid position 34 and the threonine at amino acid position 35 of the wild type sequence. In a specific embodiment, the maize

endosperm AGP small subunit polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 10, or a functional fragment or variant thereof.

Substitution of amino acids other than those specifically exemplified or naturally present in a plant AGP small subunit of the invention are also contemplated within the scope of the present invention. For example, non-natural amino acids can be substituted for the amino acids of an AGP small subunit, so long as the AGP small subunit protein having the substituted amino acids retains substantially the same biological activity as the AGP small subunit protein in which amino acids have not been substituted. Examples of non-natural amino acids include, but are not limited to, ornithine, citrulline, hydroxyproline, homoserine, phenylglycine, taurine, iodotyrosine, 2,4-diaminobutyric acid, □-amino isobutyric acid, 4-aminobutyric acid, 2-amino butyric acid, □-amino butyric acid, □-amino hexanoic acid, 6-amino hexanoic acid, 2-amino isobutyric acid, 3-amino propionic acid, norleucine, norvaline, sarcosine, homocitrulline, cysteic acid, □-butylglycine, □-butylalanine, phenylglycine, cyclohexylalanine, □-alanine, fluoro-amino acids, designer amino acids such as □-methyl amino acids, C-methyl amino acids, N-methyl amino acids, and amino acid analogues in general. Non-natural amino acids also include amino acids having derivatized side groups. Furthermore, any of the amino acids in the protein can be of the D (dextrorotary) form or L (levorotary) form. Allelic variants of a protein sequence of an AGP small subunit used in the present invention are also encompassed within the scope of the invention.

Amino acids can be generally categorized in the following classes: non-polar, uncharged polar, basic, and acidic. Conservative substitutions whereby an AGP small subunit protein of the present invention having an amino acid of one class is replaced with another amino acid of the same class fall within the scope of the subject invention so long as the AGP small subunit protein having the substitution still retains substantially the same biological activity as the AGP small subunit protein that does not have the substitution. Table 1 below provides a listing of examples of amino acids belonging to each class.

Table 1.	
Class of Amino Acid	Examples of Amino Acids
Nonpolar	Ala, Val, Leu, Ile, Pro, Met, Phe, Trp
Uncharged Polar	Gly, Ser, Thr, Cys, Tyr, Asn, Gln
Acidic	Asp, Glu
Basic	Lys, Arg, His

The subject invention also concerns variants of the polynucleotides of the present invention that encode biologically-active mutant AGP small subunit proteins of the invention. Variant sequences include those sequences wherein one or more nucleotides of the sequence have been substituted, deleted, and/or inserted. The nucleotides that can be substituted for natural nucleotides of DNA have a base moiety that can include, but is not limited to, inosine, 5-fluorouracil, 5-bromouracil, hypoxanthine, 1-methylguanine, 5-methylcytosine, and tritylated bases. The sugar moiety of the nucleotide in a sequence can also be modified and includes, but is not limited to, arabinose, xylulose, and hexose. In addition, the adenine, cytosine, guanine, thymine, and uracil bases of the nucleotides can be modified with acetyl, methyl, and/or thio groups. Sequences containing nucleotide substitutions, deletions, and/or insertions can be prepared and tested using standard techniques known in the art.

Polynucleotides and polypeptides contemplated within the scope of the subject invention can also be defined in terms of more particular identity and/or similarity ranges with those sequences of the invention specifically exemplified herein. The sequence identity will typically be greater than 60%, preferably greater than 75%, more preferably greater than 80%, even more preferably greater than 90%, and can be greater than 95%. The identity and/or similarity of a sequence can be 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, or 99% as compared to a sequence exemplified herein. Unless otherwise specified, as used herein percent sequence identity and/or similarity of two sequences can be determined using the algorithm of Karlin and Altschul (1990), modified as in Karlin and Altschul (1993).

Such an algorithm is incorporated into the NBLAST and XBLAST programs of Altschul *et al.* (1990). BLAST searches can be performed with the NBLAST program, score = 100, wordlength = 12, to obtain sequences with the desired percent sequence identity. To obtain gapped alignments for comparison purposes, Gapped BLAST can be used as described in Altschul *et al.* (1997). When utilizing BLAST and Gapped BLAST programs, the default parameters of the respective programs (NBLAST and XBLAST) can be used. *See* NCBI/NIH website.

The subject invention also contemplates those polynucleotide molecules having sequences which are sufficiently homologous with the polynucleotide sequences exemplified herein so as to permit hybridization with that sequence under standard stringent conditions and standard methods (Maniatis *et al.*, 1982). As used herein, "stringent" conditions for hybridization refers to conditions wherein hybridization is typically carried out overnight at 20-25 C below the melting temperature (Tm) of the DNA hybrid in 6x SSPE, 5x Denhardt's solution, 0.1% SDS, 0.1 mg/ml denatured DNA. The melting temperature, Tm, is described by the following formula (Beltz *et al.*, 1983):

Tm=81.5 C+16.6 Log[Na+]+0.41(%G+C)-0.61(% formamide)-600/length of duplex in base pairs.

Washes are typically carried out as follows:

(1) Twice at room temperature for 15 minutes in 1x SSPE, 0.1% SDS (low stringency wash).

(2) Once at Tm-20 C for 15 minutes in 0.2x SSPE, 0.1% SDS (moderate stringency wash).

As used herein, the terms "nucleic acid" and "polynucleotide" refer to a deoxyribonucleotide, ribonucleotide, or a mixed deoxyribonucleotide and ribonucleotide polymer in either single- or double-stranded form, and unless otherwise limited, would encompass known analogs of natural nucleotides that can function in a similar manner as naturally-occurring nucleotides. The polynucleotide sequences include the DNA strand sequence that is transcribed into RNA and the strand sequence that is complementary to the DNA strand that is transcribed. The polynucleotide sequences also include both full-length sequences as well as shorter sequences derived from the full-length sequences. Allelic variations of the exemplified sequences also fall within the scope of the subject invention. The

polynucleotide sequence includes both the sense and antisense strands either as individual strands or in the duplex.

The subject invention also concerns cells transformed with a polynucleotide of the present invention encoding a mutant AGP small subunit of the invention. In one embodiment, the cell is transformed with a polynucleotide sequence comprising a sequence encoding the amino acid sequence shown in any of SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 8, SEQ ID NO. 10, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. In a specific embodiment, the cell is transformed with a polynucleotide sequence shown in any of SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO. 7, SEQ ID NO. 9, or a functional fragment or variant thereof. Preferably, the polynucleotide sequence is provided in an expression construct of the invention. The transformed cell can be a prokaryotic cell, for example, a bacterial cell such as *E. coli* or *B. subtilis*, or the transformed cell can be a eukaryotic cell, for example, a plant cell, including protoplasts, or an animal cell. Plant cells include, but are not limited to, dicotyledonous, monocotyledonous, and conifer cells. Animal cells include human cells, mammalian cells, avian cells, and insect cells. Mammalian cells include, but are not limited to, COS, 3T3, and CHO cells.

Plants, plant tissues, and plant cells transformed with or bred to contain a polynucleotide of the invention are also contemplated by the present invention. Plants and plant tissue expressing the mutant polynucleotides of the invention exhibit increased heat stability when subjected to heat stress during development. Increased heat stability of plants can provide for increased yields from those plants, particularly under conditions of heat stress. Plants within the scope of the present invention include monocotyledonous plants, such as, for example, rice, wheat, barley, oats, sorghum, maize, sugarcane, pineapple, onion, bananas, coconut, lilies, grasses, and millet. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the plant is a cereal. Cereals to which this invention applies include, for example, maize, wheat, rice, barley, oats, rye, and millet. Preferably, the plant, plant tissue, or plant cell is *Zea mays*. Plants within the scope of the present invention also include dicotyledonous plants, such as, for example, peas, alfalfa, tomato, melon, chickpea, chicory, clover, kale, lentil, soybean, tobacco, potato, sweet potato, radish, cabbage, rape, apple trees, grape, cotton, sunflower, and lettuce; and conifers. Techniques for transforming plant cells with a gene are known in the art and include, for example, *Agrobacterium* infection, biolistic methods, electroporation, calcium chloride

treatment, *etc.* Transformed cells can be selected, redifferentiated, and grown into plants using standard methods known in the art. The seeds and progeny of any transformed or transgenic plant cells or plants of the invention are also included within the scope of the present invention.

The subject invention also concerns methods for providing a plant with increased resistance to heat stress or elevated temperatures by incorporating a polynucleotide of the present invention in the genome of the plant cells and expressing the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide. In one embodiment, a plant is grown from the plant cells. Preferably, the polynucleotide encodes a mutant AGP small subunit derived from the same plant species as the plant. In one embodiment, the plant is maize. In a specific embodiment, a polynucleotide encoding an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 8, SEQ ID NO. 10, or a functional fragment or variant thereof, is incorporated into a maize plant genome. In a specific embodiment, the polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO. 7, SEQ ID NO. 9, or a functional fragment or variant thereof.

The subject invention also concerns heat stable mutants of the small subunit of AGP of the present invention combined with heat stable mutations in the large subunit of the enzyme. Mutations in the large subunit of AGP that confer heat stability to the enzyme can also be readily prepared and are described in U.S. Patent No. 6,069,300 and published international applications WO 99/58698 and WO 98/22601. Heat stable mutants of the large subunit can be co-expressed with the mutant small subunits of the present invention to further enhance the stability of an AGP enzyme.

All patents, patent applications, provisional applications, and publications referred to or cited herein are incorporated by reference in their entirety, including all figures and tables, to the extent they are not inconsistent with the explicit teachings of this specification.

Following are examples which illustrate procedures for practicing the invention. These examples should not be construed as limiting. All percentages are by weight and all solvent mixture proportions are by volume unless otherwise noted.

Materials and Methods

Site-directed Mutagenesis. Mutations in the maize small subunit were created essentially as described by Horton *et al.* (1993). The maize endosperm AGP small subunit is encoded by the gene *brittle-2 (Bt2)*. Construct STCL (SEQ ID NO. 3) encodes a maize AGP small subunit protein (SEQ ID NO. 4) having a change from a tyrosine at amino acid position 36 of the wild type sequence to a cysteine. Construct QTYL (SEQ ID NO. 5) encodes a maize AGP small subunit protein (SEQ ID NO. 6) having an insertion of a glutamine between the serine at amino acid position 34 and the threonine at amino acid position 35 of the wild type sequence. The QTCL construct (SEQ ID NO. 7) encodes a maize AGP small subunit protein (SEQ ID NO. 8) having a change from a tyrosine at amino acid position 36 to a cysteine and an insertion of a glutamine between the serine at amino acid position 34 and the threonine at amino acid position 35. Another construct, ETCL (SEQ ID NO. 9), encodes a maize AGP small subunit protein (SEQ ID NO. 10) having a glutamic acid insertion between the serine at amino acid position 34 and the threonine at amino acid position 35, and the change from a tyrosine to a cysteine at position 36. The mutations were verified by sequence analysis.

Plasmids and Bacterial Strains. DNA fragments created from mutagenic PCR of the maize endosperm small subunit were digested with Nco I and Kpn I. These digested fragments were used to replace the equivalent wild-type region of *Bt2* in an expression vector. The vector was transformed into the *Escherichia coli* strain AC70R1-504 which also contained the wild-type *shrunken-2 (Sh2)* coding region on a compatible expression vector (Giroux *et al.*, 1996). *Sh2* encodes the large subunit of AGP. The SH2 and BT2 proteins polymerize to form the active heterotetrameric AGP. The AC70RI-504 cell line contains a mutation which renders the strain incapable of producing bacterial AGP (Iglesias *et al.*, 1993).

Protein Expression. Protein inductions were as described by Greene and Hannah (1998) with a few modifications. Cultures were grown to an OD_{600} between 0.5 and 0.7 and were induced for three hours by the addition of isopropyl β-D-thiogalactoside and nalidixic acid at final concentrations of 0.2 mM and 25 μg/ml, respectively. After the cells were harvested, the pellet was stored at -80°C overnight. The pellets were resuspended in 1.0 ml of extraction buffer (50 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 200 mM KCl, 10 mM $MgCl_2$, 2.5 mM EDTA and 5% Sucrose) with 20% ammonium sulfate, 50 μg/ml lysozyme, 1 μg/ml pepstatin, 1 μg/ml leupeptin, 1 mM PMSF,

10 µg/ml chymostatin, and 1 mM benzamidine added. The lysate was maintained on ice and sonicated three times for ten seconds each. The sample was centrifuged for five minutes at 12,500 rpm at 4°C and the supernatant was transferred to a new tube on ice. Crushed ammonium sulfate was added to 45% saturation and the sample was centrifuged for five minutes at 12,500 rpm at 4°C. The pellet was resuspended in extraction buffer containing protease inhibitors and stored on ice. The concentration of the crude protein extract was determined using Biorad protein dye reagent coupled with analysis in a Biorad spectrophotometer.

Enzymatic Analysis. AGPase activity was determined in the direction of ADP-glucose synthesis as described in Burger *et al.* (2003) with the only modifications being a decrease in the reaction time to five minutes. AGPase activity in the direction of glucose-1-phosphate (G-1-P) synthesis is essentially as described in Kleczhowski *et al.* (1993) with a reduction in scale. The specific activity is calculated by dividing the absorbance by the minutes of incubation times the milligrams of protein. Both the forward and reverse reactions were started by the addition of the enzyme. For heat treatments, the enzymes were diluted to 1.0 µg/µl and divided into two tubes. A single tube remained on ice while the second tube was placed at 58°C for 6 minutes with occasional gentle agitation. The value reported within an experiment is the average from triplicate samples.

Example 1

Point mutations were created in the N-terminus of the maize endosperm small subunit, *brittle 2* (Bt2) and expressed with wildtype large subunit, Shrunken 2, to form a mutant maize AGP enzyme. The mutant enzyme was assayed for increased heat stability relative to wildtype maize endosperm AGP. All the modified BT2 proteins tested exhibit activity levels comparable to the wild-type maize endosperm before heat treatment; however, the QTCL mutant has a slight increase. Since the specific activity is consistent among the preparations (Table 2), there is no change in enzyme turnover or expression levels caused by the mutations. The most dramatic increases in activity over wild-type maize endosperm are observed after heat treatments of 58°C for six minutes. The change of tyrosine to a cysteine results in a dramatic increase in heat stability (see Figure 2, Table 3). In the case of QTCL, greater than 50% of the enzyme remains active after heat treatment while only 2% of the wildtype is active. The addition of glutamine by

itself does not confer heat stability to the protein; however, it contributes to an increase in overall activity of the protein.

Table 2. Percentage of specific activity of small subunit mutations compared to the wildtype maize endosperm AGP

Sample	Forward Assay	Reverse Assay
ETCL	123 ± 25	130 ± 0
QTCL	170 ± 18	165 ± 7
STCL	135 ± 5	150 ± 0
QTYL	120 ± 0	135 ± 21

Table 2: The results are the averages of at least two experiments. All experiments contained triplicates of each sample. The forward activity was measured in the direction of ADP-glucose synthesis in the presence of 10mM 3-PGA. The reverse assay measures the amount of glucose-1-phosphate produced by conversion to NADH through a series of secondary reactions. The amount of NADH present can be quantified using a spectrophotometer. All assays were done from crude extracts of *E.coli* expressed proteins.

Table 3. Percent Heat Stability of small subunit mutations

Sample	Forward Assay	Reverse Assay
WT Maize	2.4% ± 0.8	0.9% ± 1.2
ETCL	31.7% ± 2.5	44.5% ± 17.7
QTCL	50.0% ± 7.2	68.5% ± 0.7
STCL	44.3% ± 1.5	55.0% ± 5.7
QTYL	1.7% ± 1.1	1.4% ± 2.0

Table 3: The results are the average of at least two independent experiments. Each individual experiment contained triplicates of each sample. The percent heat stability is measured by comparing the amount of activity of each sample remaining after heat treatment with the amount of activity obtained before heating. See Table 2 and Materials and Methods for assay conditions.

It should be understood that the examples and embodiments described herein are for illustrative purposes only and that various modifications or changes in light thereof will be

suggested to persons skilled in the art and are to be included within the spirit and purview of this application.

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Abstract of the Disclosure

The subject invention concerns polynucleotides encoding a small subunit of plant AGP having one or more mutations in the amino acid sequence wherein the mutation confers increased heat stability to the expressed AGP enzyme. Mutations in the N-terminus of the small subunit of heat labile plant AGP results in AGP enzymes that are significantly more heat stable compared to wild type AGP in that the mutant AGP retains significant levels of enzymatic activity following exposure to heat treatment. In one embodiment, the polynucleotide encodes a mutant small subunit of maize AGP. The subject invention also concerns methods for providing a plant with increased resistance to heat conditions. Plants with heat labile AGP can be transformed with a polynucleotide of the present invention. The subject invention also concerns these transformed plants and transgenic progeny thereof. The subject invention also concerns mutant polypeptides encoded by polynucleotides of the present invention.

```
                1                                                    50
      Mss   (1) -------MDMALASKASPPPWNATAAEQPIPKRDKAAA------------
      Pss   (1) MAASIGALKSSPSSNNCINERRNDSTRAVSSRNLSFSSSHLAGDKLMPVS
Consensus   (1)        L  A AS          A      K    AA
                51                                                  100
      Mss  (32) ---------------------------NDSTYLNPQAHDSVLGIILGGGA
      Pss  (51) SLRSQGVRFNVRRSPMIVSPKAVSDSQNSQTCLDPDASRSVLGIILGGGA
Consensus  (51)                             N  T L P A  SVLGIILGGGA
               101                                                  150
      Mss  (55) GTRLYPLTKKRAKPAVPLGANYRLIDIPVSNCLNSNISKIYVLTQFNSAS
      Pss (101) GTRLYPLTKKRAKPAVPLGANYRLIDIPVSNCLNSNISKIYVLTQFNSAS
Consensus (101) GTRLYPLTKKRAKPAVPLGANYRLIDIPVSNCLNSNISKIYVLTQFNSAS
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      Pss (151) LNRHLSRAYASNMGGYKNEGFVEVLAAQQSPENPDWFQGTADAVRQYLWL
Consensus (151) LNRHLSRAYASNIGGYKNEGFVEVLAAQQSPDNP WFQGTADAVRQYLWL
               201                                                  250
      Mss (155) FEEHNVMEFLILAGDHLYRMDYEKFIQAHRETNADITVAALPMDEKRATA
      Pss (201) FEEHTVLEYLILAGDHLYRMDYEKFIQAHRETDADITVAALPMDEKRATA
Consensus (201) FEEH VLEFLILAGDHLYRMDYEKFIQAHRET ADITVAALPMDEKRATA
               251                                                  300
      Mss (205) FGLMKIDEEGRIIEFAEKPKGEQLKAMMVDTTILGLDDVRAKEMPYIASM
      Pss (251) FGLMKIDEEGRIIEFAEKPQGEQLQAMKVDTTILGLDDKRAKEMPFIASM
Consensus (251) FGLMKIDEEGRIIEFAEKP GEQL AM VDTTILGLDD RAKEMPFIASM
               301                                                  350
      Mss (255) GIYVFSKDVMLQLLREQFPEANDFGSEVIPGATSIGKRVQAYLYDGYWED
      Pss (301) GIYVISKDVMLNLLRDKFPGANDFGSEVIPGATSLGMRVQAYLYDGYWED
Consensus (301) GIYV SKDVMLNLLRD FP ANDFGSEVIPGATSIG RVQAYLYDGYWED
               351                                                  400
      Mss (305) IGTIAAFYNANLGITKKPIPDFSFYDRFAPIYTQPRHLPPSKVLDADVTD
      Pss (351) IGTIEAFYNANLGITKKPVPDFSFYDRSAPIYTQPRYLPPSKMLDADVTD
Consensus (351) IGTI AFYNANLGITKKPIPDFSFYDR APIYTQPRHLPPSKMLDADVTD
               401                                                  450
      Mss (355) SVIGEGCVIKNCKINHSVVGLRSCISEGAIIEDSLLMGADYYETEADKKL
      Pss (401) SVIGEGCVIKNCKIHHSVVGLRSCISEGAIIEDSLLMGADYYETDADRKL
Consensus (401) SVIGEGCVIKNCKI HSVVGLRSCISEGAIIEDSLLMGADYYETDADKKL
               451                                                  500
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      Pss (451) LAAKGSVPIGIGKNCHIKRAIIDKNARIGDNVKIINKDNVQEAARETDGY
Consensus (451) LA KG IPIGIGKN  IKRAIIDKNARIGDNVKIIN DNVQEAA ETDGY
               501             521
      Mss (455) FIKGGIVTVIKDALLPSGTVI
      Pss (501) FIKSGIVTVIKDALIPSGIII
Consensus (501) FIK GIVTVIKDALIPSG II
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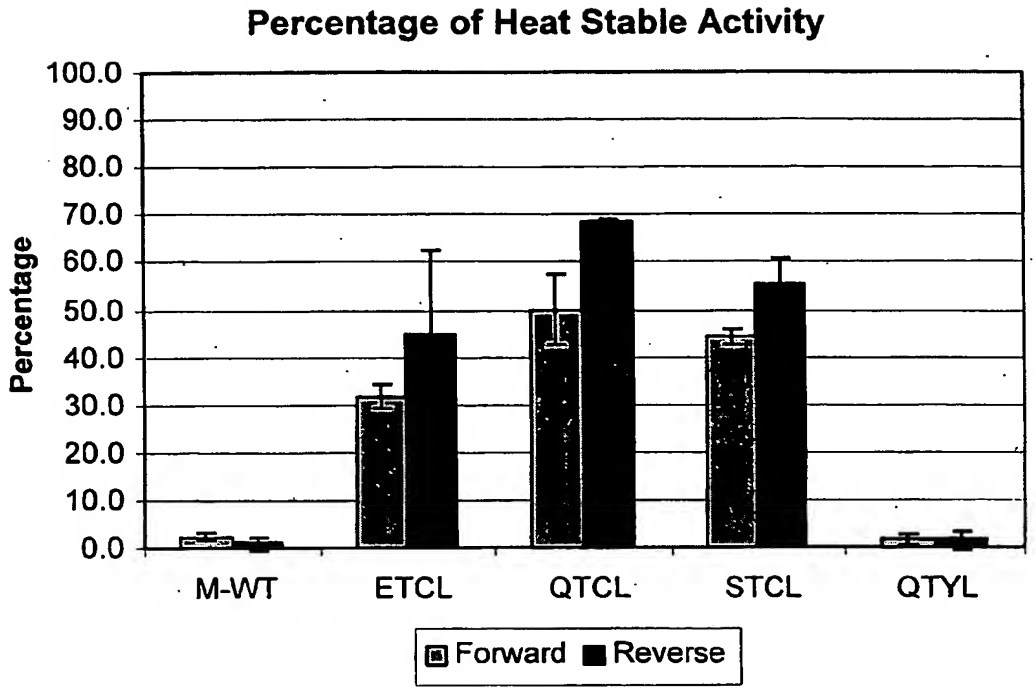
FIG. 1


Percentage of Heat Stable Activity
Percentage
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40.0
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QTCL
STCL
QTYL
Forward
Reverse

FIG. 2

SEQUENCE LISTING

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Lyerly Linebarger, Carla R.

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50 55 60

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Leu Thr Gln Phe Asn Ser Ala Ser Leu Asn Arg His Leu Ser Arg Ala
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Tyr Gly Ser Asn Ile Gly Gly Tyr Lys Asn Glu Gly Phe Val Glu Val
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Ala Asp Ala Val Arg Gln Tyr Leu Trp Leu Phe Glu Glu His Asn Val
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Glu Lys Phe Ile Gln Ala His Arg Glu Thr Asn Ala Asp Ile Thr Val
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Asp Lys Lys Leu Leu Ala Glu Lys Gly Gly Ile Pro Ile Gly Ile Gly
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Lys Arg Ala Lys Pro Ala Val Pro Leu Gly Ala Asn Tyr Arg Leu Ile
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Asp Ile Pro Val Ser Asn Cys Leu Asn Ser Asn Ile Ser Lys Ile Tyr
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            100                 105                 110

Ala Tyr Gly Ser Asn Ile Gly Gly Tyr Lys Asn Glu Gly Phe Val Glu
        115                 120                 125

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Ser Ile Gly Lys Arg Val Gln Ala Tyr Leu Tyr Asp Gly Tyr Trp Glu
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Tyr Thr Gln Pro Arg His Leu Pro Pro Ser Lys Val Leu Asp Ala Asp
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Val Thr Asp Ser Val Ile Gly Glu Gly Cys Val Ile Lys Asn Cys Lys
        355                 360                 365

Ile Asn His Ser Val Val Gly Leu Arg Ser Cys Ile Ser Glu Gly Ala
    370                 375                 380

Ile Ile Glu Asp Ser Leu Leu Met Gly Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Glu Thr Glu
385                 390                 395                 400

Ala Asp Lys Lys Leu Leu Ala Glu Lys Gly Gly Ile Pro Ile Gly Ile
                405                 410                 415

Gly Lys Asn Ser Cys Ile Arg Arg Ala Ile Ile Asp Lys Asn Ala Arg
            420                 425                 430

Ile Gly Asp Asn Val Lys Ile Leu Asn Ala Asp Asn Val Gln Glu Ala
        435                 440                 445

Ala Met Glu Thr Asp Gly Tyr Phe Ile Lys Gly Gly Ile Val Thr Val
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cccttgacaa agaagcgtgc caagcctgca gtgccattgg gtgccaacta tagactgatt    240

gatattcctg tcagcaattg tctcaacagc aacatatcca agatctatgt gctaacgcaa    300

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tggtttcagg gtactgcaga tgctgtaagg cagtacttgt ggttgtttga ggagcataat    480

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Asp Ser Gln Thr Cys Leu Asn Pro Gln Ala His Asp Ser Val Leu Gly
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Ile Ile Leu Gly Gly Gly Ala Gly Thr Arg Leu Tyr Pro Leu Thr Lys
50 55 60

Lys Arg Ala Lys Pro Ala Val Pro Leu Gly Ala Asn Tyr Arg Leu Ile
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Asp Ile Pro Val Ser Asn Cys Leu Asn Ser Asn Ile Ser Lys Ile Tyr

85 90 95

Val Leu Thr Gln Phe Asn Ser Ala Ser Leu Asn Arg His Leu Ser Arg
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Ala Tyr Gly Ser Asn Ile Gly Gly Tyr Lys Asn Glu Gly Phe Val Glu
115 120 125

Val Leu Ala Ala Gln Gln Ser Pro Asp Asn Pro Asn Trp Phe Gln Gly
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Thr Ala Asp Ala Val Arg Gln Tyr Leu Trp Leu Phe Glu Glu His Asn
145 150 155 160

Val Met Glu Phe Leu Ile Leu Ala Gly Asp His Leu Tyr Arg Met Asp
165 170 175

Tyr Glu Lys Phe Ile Gln Ala His Arg Glu Thr Asn Ala Asp Ile Thr
180 185 190

Val Ala Ala Leu Pro Met Asp Glu Lys Arg Ala Thr Ala Phe Gly Leu
195 200 205

Met Lys Ile Asp Glu Glu Gly Arg Ile Ile Glu Phe Ala Glu Lys Pro
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Lys Gly Glu Gln Leu Lys Ala Met Met Val Asp Thr Thr Ile Leu Gly
225 230 235 240

Leu Asp Asp Val Arg Ala Lys Glu Met Pro Tyr Ile Ala Ser Met Gly
245 250 255

Ile Tyr Val Phe Ser Lys Asp Val Met Leu Gln Leu Leu Arg Glu Gln
260 265 270

Phe Pro Glu Ala Asn Asp Phe Gly Ser Glu Val Ile Pro Gly Ala Thr
275 280 285

Ser Ile Gly Lys Arg Val Gln Ala Tyr Leu Tyr Asp Gly Tyr Trp Glu
290 295 300

Asp Ile Gly Thr Ile Ala Ala Phe Tyr Asn Ala Asn Leu Gly Ile Thr
305 310 315 320

Lys Lys Pro Ile Pro Asp Phe Ser Phe Tyr Asp Arg Phe Ala Pro Ile
325 330 335

Tyr Thr Gln Pro Arg His Leu Pro Pro Ser Lys Val Leu Asp Ala Asp
340 345 350

Val Thr Asp Ser Val Ile Gly Glu Gly Cys Val Ile Lys Asn Cys Lys
355 360 365

Ile Asn His Ser Val Val Gly Leu Arg Ser Cys Ile Ser Glu Gly Ala
370 375 380

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Ile Ile Glu Asp Ser Leu Leu Met Gly Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Glu Thr Glu
385                 390                 395                 400

Ala Asp Lys Lys Leu Leu Ala Glu Lys Gly Gly Ile Pro Ile Gly Ile
                405                 410                 415

Gly Lys Asn Ser Cys Ile Arg Arg Ala Ile Ile Asp Lys Asn Ala Arg
            420                 425                 430

Ile Gly Asp Asn Val Lys Ile Leu Asn Ala Asp Asn Val Gln Glu Ala
        435                 440                 445

Ala Met Glu Thr Asp Gly Tyr Phe Ile Lys Gly Gly Ile Val Thr Val
    450                 455                 460

Ile Lys Asp Ala Leu Leu Pro Ser Gly Thr Val Ile
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cccttgacaa agaagcgtgc caagcctgca gtgccattgg gtgccaacta tagactgatt    240

gatattcctg tcagcaattg tctcaacagc aacatatcca agatctatgt gctaacgcaa    300

tttaactctg cttccctcaa ccgtcacctc tcaagagcct acgggagcaa cattggaggg    360

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20 25 30

Asp Ser Glu Thr Cys Leu Asn Pro Gln Ala His Asp Ser Val Leu Gly
35 40 45

Ile Ile Leu Gly Gly Gly Ala Gly Thr Arg Leu Tyr Pro Leu Thr Lys
50 55 60

Lys Arg Ala Lys Pro Ala Val Pro Leu Gly Ala Asn Tyr Arg Leu Ile
65 70 75 80

Asp Ile Pro Val Ser Asn Cys Leu Asn Ser Asn Ile Ser Lys Ile Tyr
85 90 95

Val Leu Thr Gln Phe Asn Ser Ala Ser Leu Asn Arg His Leu Ser Arg
100 105 110

Ala Tyr Gly Ser Asn Ile Gly Gly Tyr Lys Asn Glu Gly Phe Val Glu
115 120 125

Val Leu Ala Ala Gln Gln Ser Pro Asp Asn Pro Asn Trp Phe Gln Gly
130 135 140

Thr Ala Asp Ala Val Arg Gln Tyr Leu Trp Leu Phe Glu Glu His Asn

145 150 155 160

Val Met Glu Phe Leu Ile Leu Ala Gly Asp His Leu Tyr Arg Met Asp
165 170 175

Tyr Glu Lys Phe Ile Gln Ala His Arg Glu Thr Asn Ala Asp Ile Thr
180 185 190

Val Ala Ala Leu Pro Met Asp Glu Lys Arg Ala Thr Ala Phe Gly Leu
195 200 205

Met Lys Ile Asp Glu Glu Gly Arg Ile Ile Glu Phe Ala Glu Lys Pro
210 215 220

Lys Gly Glu Gln Leu Lys Ala Met Met Val Asp Thr Thr Ile Leu Gly
225 230 235 240

Leu Asp Asp Val Arg Ala Lys Glu Met Pro Tyr Ile Ala Ser Met Gly
245 250 255

Ile Tyr Val Phe Ser Lys Asp Val Met Leu Gln Leu Leu Arg Glu Gln
260 265 270

Phe Pro Glu Ala Asn Asp Phe Gly Ser Glu Val Ile Pro Gly Ala Thr
275 280 285

Ser Ile Gly Lys Arg Val Gln Ala Tyr Leu Tyr Asp Gly Tyr Trp Glu
290 295 300

Asp Ile Gly Thr Ile Ala Ala Phe Tyr Asn Ala Asn Leu Gly Ile Thr
305 310 315 320

Lys Lys Pro Ile Pro Asp Phe Ser Phe Tyr Asp Arg Phe Ala Pro Ile
325 330 335

Tyr Thr Gln Pro Arg His Leu Pro Pro Ser Lys Val Leu Asp Ala Asp
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Val Thr Asp Ser Val Ile Gly Glu Gly Cys Val Ile Lys Asn Cys Lys
355 360 365

Ile Asn His Ser Val Val Gly Leu Arg Ser Cys Ile Ser Glu Gly Ala
370 375 380

Ile Ile Glu Asp Ser Leu Leu Met Gly Ala Asp Tyr Tyr Glu Thr Glu
385 390 395 400

Ala Asp Lys Lys Leu Leu Ala Glu Lys Gly Gly Ile Pro Ile Gly Ile
405 410 415

Gly Lys Asn Ser Cys Ile Arg Arg Ala Ile Ile Asp Lys Asn Ala Arg
420 425 430

Ile Gly Asp Asn Val Lys Ile Leu Asn Ala Asp Asn Val Gln Glu Ala
435 440 445

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Ala Met Glu Thr Asp Gly Tyr Phe Ile Lys Gly Gly Ile Val Thr Val
    450                 455                 460

Ile Lys Asp Ala Leu Leu Pro Ser Gly Thr Val Ile
465                 470                 475
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Document made available under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

International application number: PCT/US04/026965

International filing date: 18 August 2004 (18.08.2004)

Document type: Certified copy of priority document

Document details: Country/Office: US
Number: 60/496,188
Filing date: 18 August 2003 (18.08.2003)

Date of receipt at the International Bureau: 30 September 2004 (30.09.2004)

Remark: Priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b)

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